



Ribbon cutting ceremony of the new Heritage Building of Haigazian University. I to r. Rev. Megrditch Karagoezian, President of UAECNE; Ani Darakjian, M.D., Chair of HU Board of Trustees; Mr. Salim Wardé, Minister of Culture; Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian, President of HU; and H. Steven Aharonian, M.D., President of AMAA Board of Directors.

AMAA NEWS

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Haigazian University - the new Heritage Building

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Editorial Message

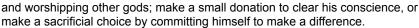
Called to be a Nehemiah, You and I Called to Start Rebuilding, You and I

Levon Filian

the Godly principals of leadership, rebuilding relationships with God and with each other, and rebuilding buildings.

In Nehemiah we see a man who was passionate. He loved God, he loved his people and his country. When he heard that "The people are in great trouble and disgrace, the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire." *Neh. 1:24*, he made a sacrificial choice.

He had at least four options: Turn a deaf ear and change the subject; be judgmental by saying it is a well deserved punishment for disobeying God



Being a man of passion, he chose to commit himself and make a difference. He took four significant steps.

He Personalized it: This requires passion. He was able to visualize the condition that was described to him. He saw his brothers and sisters in trouble and disgrace, he saw the walls broken and gates burned with fire. They had lost their sense of security, protection and comfort. They were vulnerable to enemy attacks, slavery, and even death. This affected him greatly and we read that he sat down, wept, mourned and fasted.

He Prayed: He went before God in humility and asked for forgiveness and guidance. He prayed for himself and also interceded for his fellowmen and their sins. He finally asked for success. *Neh.* 1:5-11.

He Planned: He had a strategic plan that required a series of necessary steps – permission from the King for a leave of absence, passports to safely travel through different countries, evaluating the scope of work, finding the right and skillful manpower to do the work, etc.

He Persuaded: He convinced others to participate in the mission of rebuilding. In his wisdom, he invited his kinsmen to join him in the rebuilding process, not because of who he was but because, the gracious hand of God was upon him. *Neh. 2:17*.

Here is the most precious statement when the people said: "Let us start rebuilding." So they began the good work. *Neh.2:18*.

You and I are invited today to be a Nehemiah, and start rebuilding.

WE ARE REBUILDING – We have begun the Good Work! This issue of AMAA News is indeed dedicated to the rebuilding activities of the AMAA, your organization around the world. Here's what we are currently doing.

Lebanon: Rebuilding the Haigazian University Heritage Building and renovating KCHAG.

Syria: Rebuilding the Bethel Secondary School in Aleppo.

Belgium: Rebuilding a newly purchased property into a beautiful sanctuary in Brussels.

Iraq: Rebuilding a church in Baghdad that was damaged from the ongoing war in the country.

Armenia: Remodeling several churches in Asdarag, Ardashad, Urut, Artic and Shiragamoud.

Armenia and Karabagh: Remodeling summer camps where over 10,000 Armenian children come every summer to enjoy great Christian fellowship, learn about God, learn about their rich Armenian heritage, play, relax and be fed as each and every child of God should.

I want to take this opportunity to thank God for all of you, "the Nehemiahs in AMAA," for **Personalizing** the needs of your brothers and sisters, for your **Prayers**, for **Planning** to be part of the AMAA mission, and for **Persuading** others to join the team of those who say "LET US START REBUILDING."



Haigazian University Inaugurates

The New Heritage Building

n April 29, Haigazian University held its inaugural ceremony of the Heritage Building. The guests who attended to support this special event were representatives from the Lebanese government, clergy and leaders from various church denominations, AMAA Board members, university Board members, faculty and students. This was a clear reflection on how the university makes a positive impact on the entire community it serves without any boundaries.

Dr. Ani Darakjian, Chair of the Board of Trustees, welcomed everyone and introduced the guests. She accentuated the role the university plays in shaping the future leaders of society. Rev. Megrditch Karagoezian offered the prayer of dedication. He asked God to bless all those who enter this building which is dedicated to be the home of "Truth, Freedom and Service," the university's motto. Dr. H. Steven Aharonian, President of the AMAA Board of Directors, brought his greetings. He reminded the audience that the purpose of this building is to ensure the expansion plans for graduate school. He quoted Eleanor Roosevelt, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

In his president's address, Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian quoted Psalm 118:24, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." He thanked God for His abundant blessings and shared his thoughts and feelings on the spirit of cooperation with the neighborhood. He concluded saying "Haigazian University stands in awe and praise before the Lord. Thank you to all the donors, Board members, friends and volunteers who have transformed stones and dust into a magnificent home-like university building."

Minister of Culture Salim Wardé addressed the audience on behalf of H.E. Mr. Saad Hairi to express his gratitude and congratulations. He then praised the role Haigazian University played in preserving this Heritage Building.

Dr. Ani Darakjian then invited Mr. Salim Wardé, Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian, Rev. Megrditch Karagoezian and Dr. H. Steven Aharonian to cut the ribbon, thus officially inaugurating the building. Following the ribbon-cutting, the audience was invited to the unveiling of the plaque that revealed the Sirpuhe Philibosian Conte Hall. Mrs. Joyce Stein, daughter of Sirpuhe, emotionally expressed the vision of her parents and their sustained love and support of Haigazian University.

The celebration continued into the evening with a special dinner program at the Golden Tulip Serenada Hotel. Mira Yardemian, Public Relations Director, welcomed the guests. Mr. Levon Filian, AMAA Executive Director, thanked everyone for their prayers and support and congratulated the President and the Board for this great achievement. Ms. Michele Sison, U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon, made reference to the spirit of cooperation the university enjoys and promotes in the community and especially with the United States. \square



Guests gathered for the inauguration ceremony of the HU New Heritage Building.



Minister of Culture Salim Wardé addressed the audience Mrs. Joyce Philibosian Stein unveils the plaque of the Sirpuhe Philibosian Conte Hall.



Board of Trustees of Haigazian University.

Building Our Church in Brussels

he Church in Brussels, Belgium was purchased on May 28, 2009, Armenian Independence Day. Soon after the purchase, the congregation said "Let us start rebuilding." (Nehemiah 2:18). So they began the good work!

The old dilapidated interior walls were removed and the rebuilding started. Architects and contractors obtained the necessary permits. The foundation was reinforced, the roof was replaced and the windows, doors, electrical and heating systems were installed.

On May 21, 2010, a concert was held to benefit the renovation of our church. The event was attended by over 80 people including Pastor Gilbert Leonian, Pastor Rene Leonian, Mr. Michael Mahmourian, Chairman of the Committee of Armenians in Belgium, and Father Zadig Avedikian, spiritual head of the Armenian Apostolic Church in Belgium. A special guest was Mrs. Rachel Dink, widow of Hrant Dink, who left the guests emotionally moved and filled with joy.

The event was highlighted by speeches, a choral presentation by the Armenian Evangelical Church, a video presentation showing the project's goals, and a beautiful recital of classical music.

The benefit concert followed with a reception. It was a fruitful occasion that will live deep within the hearts of all who attended. Pastor Sarkis Pachaian reassured everyone that "Nothing is impossible with God." (Luke 1:37)



The Armenian Evangelical fellowship in Europe and the Armenian Evangelical Union in France have been very supportive. Many believers have assisted us with their prayers and financial support.

"It is our earnest prayer that you continue to pray for the completion of this church and help us financially to complete the project by October 2010. In order to do this, we must raise about \$220,000," commented Rev. Pachaian. □

Church in Baghdad, Iraq A Growing Ministry in an Area of Conflict

he Armenian Evangelical Church in Baghdad, Iraq is a young and growing ministry. It was established in 2004 in war torn Iraq to bring spiritual comfort to hundreds of Armenians in the area.

The church holds four worship services every week, has six satellite areas of worship, has a Sunday School with 150 children and it broadcasts sermons in Armenian and Arabic. Indeed, this church is a testimony of faith.

A bomb placed at the church entrance caused only property damage. Two years ago, the entire second floor was damaged by fire as the result of fierce street fighting in the city.

Over the last few years, the AMAA has helped the church in remodeling the destroyed areas and provided financial assistance to purchase a generator to provide lighting and air conditioning. Thanks to AMAA friends and donors for their support and prayers.



The ministry in Iraq is God's miracle in a dangerous war zone. Please continue to pray and support this ministry. Pray for the pastor Brother Norik Hovsepian and the entire community.

Greetings From Armenia

Dear AMAA family members!

We would like you to meet your brothers and sisters in Christ working in His field in Armenia. During our visits in Armenia in February and May 2010, we spent time with our pastors, Christian education workers, academy students, kindergarten students and friends. We wanted to bring joy, hope and encouragement to everyone. We wanted to thank them on your behalf and convey your greetings and prayers.

Please continue to pray for our ministry.















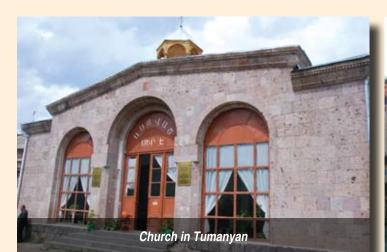














































AMAA Easter Activities

in Armenia and Karabagh

he Easter message in Armenia was proclaimed again this year through various youth activities. The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), in cooperation with the Evangelical Church of Armenia, organized Easter celebration programs in 44 towns and villages throughout Armenia and Karabagh. Over 5,000 children and their families heard the glorious message that Jesus Christ rose from the dead and that He brings us **hope** not only for a better future, but for an eternal life.

Hundreds of volunteers, under the supervision of Rev. Albert Paytyan, Director of ECA Christian Education programs in Armenia, prepared inspirational activities such as dramas, songs and games. They also participated in worship services proclaiming the good news.

Several activities were held in Bert, a town in the North, Goris in the South, Yerevan and in other cities including Ijevan, Vanatzor, Gyumri, Spitak and Stepanakert (Karabagh). All these activities were aimed at delivering the Easter message of divine love, **hope** and eternal life in the risen Lord.

In his remarks, Rev. Paytyan expressed his sincere **hope** that this message of eternal life will touch and change the hearts of thousands of people and will also bring **hope** to the Armenian people who have endured many years of pain and suffering. \Box







ECA's Christian Education Department

Organizes Games and Contests for Children

he Evangelical Church of Armenia's (ECA) Christian Education Department pays great attention to the physical training of children by providing organized sports, games and contests between Sunday Schools and Summer Camps.

Football (soccer) is a favorite sport in Armenia. During the year, the CE Department provides sporting equipment and clothes to ECA football teams throughout Armenia. In addition, the Department organized a teen football championship which took place on April 30 in Vanadzor. Teams from Ijevan, Vanadzor, Alaverdi, Toumanian, Talin and Yerevan participated.

The team from Spitak won first place and received the race cup named "Noah's Ark." The Talin team came in second place and the team from Ijevan came in third place. These winning teams received diplomas and all of the participating football teams were given gifts from the CE Department. The well planned games involved church workers from Vanadzor and were headed by Rev. Samvel Kirakosian.



On May 1, the annual inter-church youth football championship took place at the "MIKA" sporting complex in Yerevan. Organized by Young Life Church, the teams represented the following churches: Young Life, The Word of Life, God People, the church of the village Nshavan and the Evangelical Church of Armenia (ECA). The ECA team "NOAH" played a great game and came in first place. \square

Like a Bridge Over Marmarig Waters

t takes two bridges to cross over the Marmarig River into Camp Hankavan. These two recently reinforced bridges lead you to the newly remodeled Camp Hankavan. Here is where thousands of young Armenian children will come this summer to enjoy a safe haven, a healthy meal, and to learn about God's love for them. They will learn new songs, recite psalms, learn how to pray and how to play in a safe Christian environment. Maybe we can say, like a bridge over troubled waters, He laid himself down for them.





The Bridge over the Marmarig River leading to Camp Hankavan.

Renovations at Camp Hankavan.

Did you know? Would you?

Did you know that every morning at 8:30 a.m., the AMAA staff in Paramus comes together for devotionals? We read from the Bible and from Our Daily Bread, sometimes we get inspired and sing a hymn or two, but we always spend time in prayer. We pray for our churches and our missions worldwide. We pray for our leaders, pastors, missionaries, donors, sponsors and all those we are able to touch by sharing God's love with them and providing a glass of cold water to them in His name. We pray for our government here in the United States and for the government in Armenia.

Each day of the month we pray for specific churches and missions. Also we pray for each other and for special requests. Please let us know if you want us to praise God for your joys and lift your concerns to Him in prayer.

Moreover, we want to share with you that the AMAA staff in Armenia also holds devotionals every day. They read the Bible, Our Daily Bread, sing hymns and pray for our churches and missions. Jesus set the example by spending time in fervent prayer. (John 17:1-26)

We are praying for you.
We ask you to pray for us. **Would you?**Please e-mail us your response at amaa@amaa.org
Thank you and God bless.

AMAA's Newly Elected Executive Director Visits the Armenian Memorial Church of Watertown

Jeffrey Bilezikian

On April 11, Mr. Levon Filian, AMAA's newly elected Executive Director, and Mr. Dikran Youmshakian, AMAA's Field Director, participated in the Sunday Worship Service at The Armenian Memorial Church of Watertown, MA. Mr. Youmshakian gave the Armenian sermon and Mr. Filian gave the English sermon. Each delivered an inspiring sermon, filling the parishioners with God's word, and sharing some information from the mission field. Two AMAA Board members, Mrs. Elaine Kasparian and Mr. Charles Bilezikian and their spouses, were present at the service.

Following the AMAA Missions lunch, Mr. Filian, with his vibrant spirit and enthusiasm, provided the group with new information about various AMAA projects around the world. With his steady presence, Mr. Youmshakian rejuvenated the members to sponsor and support these projects. Over 90 people attended the luncheon.

We praise God for this successful and fruitful visit by the AMAA's Executive Director and Field Director which helped renew our commitment to serve God. □

Detroit Church Celebrates AMAA Sunday

April 18 was a special day of celebration at the Armenian Congregational Church of Detroit. AMAA Field Director Mr. Dikran Youmshakian participated in the Sunday worship service where he presented an inspiring message on giving. He thanked the Pastor, Rev. Makarios Darawi, and the Congregation for their partnership and support of the AMAA. During lunch, which was organized by the Church's Missions Committee, Mr. Youmshakian gave an update on AMAA activities and support programs in various countries including Armenia, Belgium, Lebanon and Iraq. \square

Havertown Church Observes Armenian Memorial Day

The Armenian Martyr's Congregational Church of Havertown, PA had a special service of remembrance dedicated to the 95th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide on April 25. AMAA Field Director Mr. Dikran Youmshakian gave the Armenian sermon and Rev. Nishan Bakalian, Pastor of the Church gave a sermon in English.

After worship service, the congregation gathered in the social hall to learn how AMAA was organized during the Genocide to help survivors who had spread all around the world. One of the AMAA's goals was the special campaign to renovate over 400 Armenian Schools and churches in historic Armenia that were either completely destroyed or severely damaged. Over the years, the AMAA expended its services to reach out to Armenian communities in 24 countries. \square

Executive Director Levon Filian Visits Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus

The close proximity of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) to the Armenian Presbyterian Church (APC) in Paramus, NJ and the involvement of APC's church membership in the ongoing work of AMAA both locally and globally make it a unique church among our AEUNA churches.

The newly appointed Executive Director of AMAA, Mr. Levon Filian, was welcomed to the church community at the beginning of the year. On Sunday, May 16, he reminded the church of the uniqueness of this relationship when he brought God's message to the people at APC. Mr. Filian incorporated AMAA's field work in both of the sermons reminding the congregants that they are the Salt of the Earth (Matthew 5) and are called to the work of rebuilding based on Nehemiah 1:1-6, 2:17.

Mr. Filian shared with the congregants many moving stories from his visits to Armenia, Syria and Lebanon and how the Lord has been working in the lives of His people. He asked the congregation to constantly pray and asked them to protect and guide His work in all the countries where the AMAA is involved. He demonstrated through examples how blessed we are and that we should never forget to share our blessings with those who are less fortunate. Many members had the chance to speak with Mr. Filian during the coffee hour and become more acquainted with his work at the AMAA. The church wished Mr. Filian and the AMAA staff wisdom and guidance as they continue working in partnership with God's churches to advance His Kingdom in Armenia, Syria, Lebanon and in many other parts of the world. The congregants also prayed for Mr. Filian's family as they move to New Jersey and make the East Coast their home. \square

Missions Sunday at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Toronto



May 30 was Mission's Sunday at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Toronto, Canada. Guest speaker Mr. Dikran

(Cont'd on the following page)

Mr. Panos Zeitlian, the sponsor of the Toronto Church Mission luncheon, making an appeal for the support of our children in Armenia.

Youmshakian, Field Director of the AMAA, presented a sermon on the economic crisis faced by a widow and her family and the unique way the prophet Elisha helped her. (2nd Kings 4:1-7). Following the worship service, over 120 guests gathered in the social hall for lunch, which was underwritten by Mr. Panos Zeitlian and his family in memory of their beloved son Vicken who passed away at a very young age.

After lunch, a series of presentations on Child Support programs in Armenia and the Middle East were made on behalf of AMAA, AMAC and the Church's Missions Committee. Mr. Zeitlian made a moving appeal and asked that we not forget our children in Armenia who face many hardships. He emphasized that it is our duty to support them. In response to the challenging appeals, a significant amount was raised. \square



The Armenian Missionary Association of Canada (AMAC) Board had its meeting on April 29, in Kingston, ON, to review its support programs, approve the budget for fiscal year 2010-2011 and plan fundraising events for the following year. AMAC is an affiliate of AMAA in Canada. All gifts to AMAA from Canada are chanelled through AMAC.

First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno Celebrates AMAA Sunday and Father's Day

Phillip Tavlian



L to R: Roseann Saliba, Levon Filian, Elaine Hamparson & Edward Saliba

The First Armenian Presbyterian Church of Fresno, CA observed AMAA Sunday on June 6. Mr. Levon Filian, a former member of FAPC and the newly appointed Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), was the special guest of the congregation.

Mr. Filian delivered the worship message in the English and Armenian languages during the morning service. The Armenian message, "You Are the Salt of the Earth," was a meditation on Matthew 5: 13-16. Mr. Filian reminded the congregants that Jesus Christ praised and challenged his disciples to be the salt and light of the earth. He encouraged the congregation to fulfill their responsibilities as followers of Jesus. The English message, "Let Us Start Rebuilding," was a meditation on Nehemiah 1: 1-6, 2: 17-18. Citing the example of Nehemiah, Mr. Filian encouraged listeners to join the AMAA in applying "The Four Ps" – personalize a mission's ministry to Armenia and beyond; pray to God for the needs of people in the missions field; plan the work of ministering to brothers and sisters in Christ; and persuade others to participate directly in God's work.

The worship service was followed by a mission's luncheon recognizing the 90th Anniversary Year of AMAA and celebrating the month dedicated to Father's Day. After dining on a delicious tri-tip meal, luncheon guests enjoyed a fashion show featuring grandfathers, fathers and children. Roseann Saliba served as Mistress of Ceremonies and Arpi Keledjian and Talene Karkazian served as fashion show commentators. Mr. Filian gave thanks to the many families who participated in the fashion show and were part of the luncheon audience. He compared the blessings of America with the grave needs of Armenia – social orphans whose fathers work outside the Republic and rarely visit home; young men who fight in Azerbaijan and in some cases do not return from battle; and teen brides who marry outside the Christian faith for reasons of economic and physical survival. Mr. Filian said: "We cannot afford to waste or lose God's blessings. Place these problems on your daily prayer list. Our God is an awesome God and He will answer." Mrs. Saliba reminded guests that just \$21 a month – the equivalent of a restaurant meal for two or a few specialty coffees - would enable AMAA to sponsor a child in Armenia or the Near East for an entire year.

Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal Marks 46 Years of Service

Sima Toutikian

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal celebrated its 46th anniversary on June 12. Mr. Levon Filian, Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), was the special guest speaker at this blessed occasion which was attended by over 120 members and their families.

As music is a very important part of Armenian history and culture, the evening's festivities began with a concert featuring beautiful solo performances by sopranos Anais Doramadjian and Armene Kessabian. A chamber orchestra, accompanied by renowned clarinet player and musician Hampartsoum Djabourian, performed 12 pieces of Armenian folk music, mostly pieces from Komitas with special arrangements for the clarinet. These performances were enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Following the concert, a formal dinner was held in Aroyan Hall. Mr. Filian brought his greetings from the AMAA great family, thanked them for their continued support for many years, welcomed the guests and reiterated his joy at his being present at the annual celebration of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal. His insightful message touched on the fundamental values of all Armenians. "We have a responsibility as Christians and Armenians to ensure that our rich culture which is embedded in Christian values is passed on to many generations to come," said Mr. Filian.

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal is grateful to the organizing committee for its dedication and hard work to ensure that the evening was a success. In addition, the Church acknowledged the members who gave so generously in honor of the occasion. The congregation has a long and inspiring history. Since its founding by a few dedicated families in 1964, it has





grown and is committed to ensure its faith and devotion to worship together, by Grace and for His will.

On June 13, Mr. Filian delivered an inspiring message. Once again, he challenged the congregation to remain steadfast in their faith and give a glass of cold water to the needy in His name. \Box

AMAA Sunday in Washington, DC

The Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of Washington, DC is a small but dedicated group that gathers at least four times a year for worship and fellowship. Their June 13 service, attended by over 30 people, was dedicated to the AMAA and led by Mr. Dikran Youmshakian, AMAA Field Director. At dinner, Mr. Youmshakian showed a documentary on AMAA Child Care programs in Armenia. The group generously supported the AMAA with their gifts designated for Camps and the Milk Fund. One gift was designated to buy communion sets for churches in Armenia. \square



AMAA Displays Books, Trivets and Brochures at Alexandria Armenian Festival

The 18th annual Alexandria Armenian Festival, organized by the Knights of Vartan, was held on June 12 at the City Hall at Market Square in Alexandria, VA. The warm, sunny

weather and beautiful Armenian music attracted many visitors to come and enjoy the Armenian Culture.

The AMAA participated with a display of trivets and books on Armenian history, culture and religion and photos from the summer camp programs in Armenia and Karabagh.



AMAA Spring Concert Benefits Summer Camps in Armenia & Karabagh



L to R: Nareg Hartounian, Tamara Shamlian, David Antabian, Diana Vasylian, YY Sisters Tatev, Sona and Lucy Yeghiazaryans, Gregory Loshkajian, Jonathon Floril, Serena Tchorbajian, Laurie Dabaghian, Louisa Janbazian, Mossig Makhoulian, Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramii, Dr. Ani Janbazian, Tamar Kherlopian and Elbiz Baghdikian.

he Armenian Evangelical Church of New York was the venue for the AMAA's Annual Spring Concert to benefit children's Summer Camps in Armenia and Karabagh. Organized by the AMAA Summer Camp/Christmas Committee, the event was held on Sunday, May 23 and attended by over 100 guests. Over \$10,000 was raised to help needy children attend the camps which enrich their lives physically and spiritually.

Mr. Mossig Makhoulian, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Armenian Evangelical Church in New York, welcomed the audience and Rev. Peter Doghramji, Ph.D., Pastor of the Church, delivered an Invocation.

Mrs. Elbiz Baghdikian, Chairperson of the Committee, introduced the artists and thanked the Naregatsi Art Institute for their collaboration in presenting the very

talented young artists who performed at the event.

The audience was treated to several piano selections performed by David Antabian, a twelve year old pianist from Englewood, NJ. David has been playing the piano for 7 years and recently performed in Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall as a finalist in the 2010 Armenian Youth Talent Music Competition. His pieces included Grieg's Nocturne (Op54, No.4) as well as the Armenian Song (No. 11) by G. Gurdiieff.

Vocalists Serena Tchorbajian and Gregory Loshkajian, accompanied by Jonathon Floril, performed six pieces, including a beautiful rendition of The Phantom of the Opera. Serena, a seventh grade honor student, has trained in classical voice for several years and has developed a singing repertoire in five languages. She has performed in venues including Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and most recently at Jazz at Lincoln Center with the New York Pops. A tenor from Saddle River, New Jersey, Gregory has been singing for seven years and has performed with the Metropolitan Opera Children's Chorus, Bergen County Chorus, Cantalyrica (a semi-professional NJ choir), and the Walter Engel Festival of Young Performers.

Diana Vasilyan, a violinist born in Yerevan, Armenia, began her musical career at the age of seven. In 2009 she was nominated as "The Best Female Violinist in Armenia" during the Big Apple Music Awards held in Manhattan Center. Diana performed several Armenian pieces and concluded with a medley of Armenian

The YY Sisters - Tatev, Sona and Lucy – concluded the musical portion of the program by performing Armenian traditional classical music. Their three-part harmonies coupled with the group's unique vocal styles provided the listeners with a spiritually satisfying experience. The sisters have garnered attention from the Armenian and American communities.

Mrs. Lucy Janjigian, National Chair of the Committee, spoke about the Summer Camp program and how events such as the Concert are important to sustain programs for the children in Armenia and Karabagh. Mr. Nareg Hartounian, founder and director of the Naregasti Art Institute, presented a special Pomegranate award to Mossig Makhoulian and thanked the Church for both hosting this event and for introducing the Naregatsi Art Institute to Louisa Janbazian, AMAA Publications/ Public Relations Director, who realized the potential of this collaboration to introduce young Armenian artists and showcase their talents.

Mr. Levon Filian, Executive Director of the AMAA, concluded the afternoon event by offering inspiring remarks and encouraging the guests to continue attending AMAA events which support programs for those in need. His challenge to double such performances next year was supported with great enthusiasm. \Box



Thousands of children in Armenia and Karabagh are eagerly counting down the days to the first day of camp.

Unfortunately, many might miss the opportunity to attend without your help.

A \$ 50 contribution will help one more child to be able to attend an overnight camp this summer and \$25 will help one more child to attend a day camp.

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) operates two overnight camps in Armenia and Karabagh - Hankavan and Shushi, and over 50 day camps in other areas in the homeland. Campers come from impoverished families and AMAA cannot charge them any fees. That is why we rely on your assistance.

Please help us bring more kids to camp this year. Be as generous as you can. The children will never forget your love and the positive impact your gift will make on their young lives.

			70
Yes, I would like to	help children in Armenia & Karabagh to attend sumr	mer camps. Enclosed is my donation of \$	for:
-	Children @ \$50 each for overnight camps	Children @ \$25 each for day camps	
Name	Tel	E-mail	
Address			

AMAA's Albert Momjian, Esq.

Honored as Top Lawyer in Pennsylvania

op 100 Pennsylvania Super Lawyer. Chair of Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis Family Law Department. Author. Lecturer. Honorary Counsul, Republic of Haiti. Husband. Father.

Albert Momjian, Esq., a special friend to the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) for over 40 years, answers to all of these titles and many more. Momjian was recently featured on the cover of Pennsylvania Super Lawyers 2010 magazine and in the magazine's article titled "Family Guy", which highlights him as one of the top 100 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers in 2010. He has been the recipient of this high honor each year since 2004.

Momjian has generously served and supported the AMAA in many ways over the years. He has served as its solicitor for over 40 years, as President from 1993 to 1997, as a Board member for many years, as Chairman of the Wills and Bequests Committee for over 10 years and as Treasurer of the Armenian Evangelical World Council for over 10 years.

"We are extremely thankful and proud of what Albert has done to support our mission for so many years," said Mr. Levon Filian, AMAA's Executive Director. "Indeed he has a passion to serve the Lord and His people. His leadership and commitment to the AMAA has enabled us to continue the important work we do in 24 countries around the world. We are truly blessed that he has chosen to dedicate his valuable time and expertise to the AMAA."

A practicing attorney for over 50 years, Momjian earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Columbia University. He currently serves as chair of his firm's Family Law Department in Philadelphia. Momjian is a nationally renowned family law attorney regarded as the dean of the Pennsylvania family law bar. His practice encompasses complex cases involving divorce and domestic relations, representing many public figures over the years.

Pennsylvania Family Law, a landmark treatise which he coauthored in 1978, was the first book of its kind to provide such a comprehensive and practical approach to family law and is often cited by the Commonwealth's appellate courts. He has been quoted in numerous publications including The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Boston Globe, the National Law Journal, CNN. com and by the Associated Press. His high-profile cases have been featured on Primetime and in People, Time, Vanity Fair, The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal.

Momjian, who has served as Honorary Consul for the Republic of Haiti in Pennsylvania since 1978, has spent the last 30 years dedicating time to the delivery of humanitarian and medical aid to Haiti, and providing legal counsel and support for Philadelphia's substantial Haitian population. Since the un-

precedented earthquake in January, he is spending much time helping the Haitian people locate their families and obtain passports to visit; arranging for medical supplies and equipment and tents to be shipped to Haiti; attending conferences for the



reconstruction of Haiti; and lecturing at schools and universities about Haiti – its history, its people and the damage created by the catastrophic earthquake.

Momjian and his wife, Esther, have three adult children, Carol, Mark and Thomas, who are all attorneys. His son, Mark, was quoted in the article that his father "goes beyond what an ordinary lawyer would do to make someone feel comfortable and confident that they have an advocate in their corner."

"We also are honored to have Albert as an advocate and congratulate him on this latest and well-deserved honor," added Dr. H. Steven Aharonian, AMAA Board of Directors President. □

NJ Student Spearheads Sports Equipment Drive

Austin Collignon, a sophomore at Westwood Regional High School in Township of Washington, NJ, and a member of the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ, organized his second annual Sports Equipment Drive to help benefit orphans in third world countries and local inner city children.



During the week of June 7-14,
parents and students were given an opportunity to drop off gently used sports equipment at specially designated boxes in the Westwood and Township of Washington schools. A portion of the donated equipment was delivered by Austin to the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) in Paramus, NJ to be sent to orphans in Armenia. The New Jersey Food Bank in Hillsdale, NJ also benefitted from this drive.

In the past two years, this sports equipment drive became a huge success. Donations of golf clubs, soccer balls, cleats, tennis rackets and baseball equipment doubled in quantity this year.

"Children in these countries and cities are only given financial aid for their education, food and housing," said Austin. "My goal is to bring a little fun to their day." □

Haigazian University's 55th Anniversary

Showcases the Innovative Abstract Art of Arshile Gorky

ver 100 guests attended an exclusive, private gala which celebrated Haigazian University's 55th anniversary and showcased the innovative abstract art of Arshile Gorky on June 13 at the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art.

The event was organized by AMAA Board of Directors exofficio member Joyce Stein and her husband, Joe. Champagne was donated by Palu Kalemkiarian's Wine of the Month and Senior Curator Rebecca Morse presented an impressive overview of Gorky's art and a glimpse into his tragic life. Armenia Consul General Grigor Hovhannissian of Los Angeles was a guest at the event and spoke of his graduate studies at Haigazian University.

The Haigazian University Alumni and the Women's Auxiliary are jointly planning a memorable banquet on Friday,



Haigazian University Women's Auxiliary of Los Angeles with Counsul General Grigor Hovhannissian. (Not shown, Auxiliary members: Julie Aharonian, Phyllis Hamo, and Mary Kassabian.)

November 12, 2010 in the Greater Los Angeles area. All University presidents and many professors and alumni plan to attend this event. Come and support your alma mater.

Musical Night at Calvary



Karen Barson

usical Night at Calvary, an evening filled with beautiful harmonies of gospel, Armenian classics and jazz, was held March 27, 2010 and showcased the talented members of the Calvary Armenian Congregational Church (CACC). Performances featured the congregation's very gifted church choir, the lively church Jazz Quartet and the accomplished Men's A Cappella Ensemble.

The audience enjoyed uplifting classics such as "Everytime I Feel the Spirit", "Jan, Hayasdan (Sweet Armenia)", "Arax", and "He is Lord." It was an evening full of exhilaration and brightening spirits.

Special thanks to Musical Director Rev. Nerses Balabanian, Accompanist Armine Adrouny, Mistress of Ceremony Stephanie Adrouny and members of the choir, the Jazz Quartet, the Men's A Capella Ensemble and the incredible soloists Armig Amirkhanian, Zaven Khachadourian, Hagop Nazarian and Lara Palanjian.

Haigazian University Alumni and Women's Auxiliary

Will celebrate 55 years of academic excellence at a Gala Evening honoring former presidents, notable alumni and distinguished guests.

November 12, 2010 at the Glendale Hilton, Glendale, CA

- Meet your friends and former University Presidents.
- Hear Dr. Manoug Manougian share his experience launching the 1st rocket made in Lebanon at Haigazian.
- Hear Dr. Paul Haidostian share many stories about your University.
- Hear Dr. John Markarian share his memoirs, remembering you!!!

All Auxiliary members, friends and alumni are encouraged to attend.

Please make your reservations by contacting katiakermoyan@earthlink.net

Armenians of Lebanon: From Past Princesses and Refugees to Present-Day Community

Published by Haigazian University & The Armenian Heritage Press, 506 pp, hc, \$35.00 (Cat. # 338)

Launched by Haigazian University, "Armenians of Lebanon" covers the full span of Armenian history and society in Lebanon from medieval times to the present day. The book is a unique repository of the rich culture and vitality of one of the most



important Armenian diaspora communities. It provides a wealth of information for both the scholar and the layperson and is, of course, of particular interest for those with ties to Lebanon. Edited by Aida Boudjikanian, the volume contains 14 chapters, seven are in English, four in French and three in Armenian.

A Testimonial of a Life Long Journey of

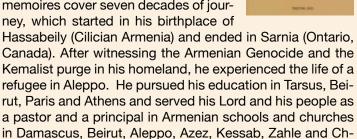
Service and Faith (in Armenian) Վսայագրութուն **สมเมรยา ปัจกุมเมนุม**น

ՃասարարՀորդութեան Մբ

taura.

Published by the Union of the Armenian Evang'l Churches in the Near East, 400 pp, pb, \$30.00 (Cat. # 337)

Rev. Avak Avakian's (1904-1983) memoires cover seven decades of jour-



His memoires are of historical value since they document both eye-witnessed and personally experienced events and personalities. This is especially true when they narrate his personal experiences of the Armenian Genocide, life in Aleppo as a refugee, as a student at St. Paul's College in Tarsus and at the Athen's School of Religion. Overall, his memoires are of special significance to the history of Armenian Evangelicals in the Middle East between the years 1930-1969.

Rev. Avakian retired in Sarnia, Canada, where he remained until his last days in touch with church life and devoting time to writing his memoires.

This book includes three appendices which were written, compiled and edited by Dr. Yervant H. Kassouny. The appendices are a biographical presentation of the personalities mentioned by Rev. Avakian in his memoires, the documents which support the events mentioned in the memoires and the words of condolences and sympathy testimonies expressed on the sad occasion of Rev. Avakian's death in 1983.



Challenges and Responses by Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian

Published by the Armenian Heritage Committee of Royal Oak, MI, 158 pp. hc, \$20.00 (Cat. # 339)

The following is an excerpt from Rosemary Russell Boze's book review. Rosemary is an educator and community activist from Winona Lake, Indiana.



"Life is a fearful adventure," writes

Dr. Tootikian in this his 32nd volume, an adventure where we are met with challenges that require "proper responses." But how do we make "right choices?" By using challenges as "stepping stones," not by making excuses for "stumbling blocks" that hold us back. And if we place our faith in God, then we will learn to see challenges as opportunities, even "in the most hopeless situations."

With this introduction, Dr. Tootikian sets out to present examples of challenges and responses in three parts: 1. Observances and Observations; 2. Views on Issues; 3. As I See It.

Minister, educator, administrator, prolific writer and community leader, the Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian in this latest volume, as always, addresses complex, relevant matters with wisdom, anecdotes, statistics and the Word of God.

For a complete listing of our bookstore holdings please contact AMAA Book Service Department - 201.265.2607, or visit www.amaa.org

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3 Այ Այեցարանական Նաշացակներ Եյ Հերոսներ

Վեր. Պարգեւ Ն. Տարագնեան

ՆԱԽԱԲԱՆ.- Հայ ժողովուրդի մեջ ընդհանրացած է այն սխալ կարծիքը թէ Թուրքիոյ մեջ հայ աւետարանականներուն խնայուած է աքսորն ու ջարդը՝ շնորհիւ Բողոքական մեծ տերութիւններու միջամտութեան։ Մեկ ուրիշ ընդհանրացումը այն է, թե հայ աւետարանականներ ո՛չ նահատակ ունեցած են, ո՛չ ալ հերոս։ Սակայն հայ ցեղասպանութեան պատմութեան ուսումնասիրութիւնը ցոյց կուտայ մեզի, թէ այս տեսութիւնները անհիմն են, ու հետեւանք՝ կա՛մ զրպարտութեան եւ կա՛մ անգիտութեան։ Այս յօդուածը ամփոփումն է այս մասին հեղինակին կատարած մէկ ուսումնասիրութեան որ երեւցաւ հայ մամուլի մէջ։

Մեծ եղած է Հայ Աւետարանական համայնքին մարդկային, ինչպես նաեւ եկեղեցական ու
կրթական հաստատութիւններու կորուստը։ Այն
տարիներու Թուրքիոյ Հայ Աւետարանական համայնքի Ազգապետ՝ Զենոր Ա. Պէզճեանի պատրաստած
Տեղեկագիրին համաձայն, 1913-1920 արիւնալի
տարիներուն Թուրքիոյ հայ աւետարանական համայնքին մարդու եւ հաստատութիւններու կորուստը
կազմած են անոնց ընդհանուր թիւին 75 %-ը։ Ասիկա
անշուշտ ահաւոր կորուստ մըն էր նկատի ունենալով
որ աւետարանական համայնքը յարաբերաբար նոր
էր՝ հազիւ 75 տարեկան, ու փայլուն ապագայ կը

խոստանար։

Նախ երկու խօսք «նահատակ» բառին շուրջ։ Այս բառին հոմանիշ է «մարտիրոս» բառը, որ Անգլերէն լեզուի մէջ "martyr" է։ Այս վերջին երկու եզրերը կուգան մեզի Յունարէն Martus բառէն որ վկայ կը նշանակէ։ Առաքեալներու ժամանակին «վկաներ» կը համարուէին անոնք որոնք Քրիստոսը կը դաւանէին հռովմէական ատեանին առջեւ, ու վրայ կուտային իրենց կեանքը։ Իսկ մեր պարագային, քանի որ Օսմանեան Կայսրութեան մէջ ապրող հայերը կը ճանչցուէին իրրեւ հայ քրիստոնեաներ, հետեւարար անպատեհութիւն պէտք չէ համարել ջարդի զոհ

գացող բոլոր հայերը *նահատակ* որակելը։

Թուրքիոյ տարածքին ամերիկացի միսիոնարներու կողմէ հիմնուած կրթական հաստատութիւնները – գոլէններ, աստուածաբանական ճեմարաններ, բարձրագոյն եւ նախնական կրթարաններ – մի՛շտ կասկածով կը դիտուէին թուրք կառավարութեան կողմէ։ Ու ասիկա երկու պատճառներով։ Նախ որ այդ հաստատութիւնները կը ջամբէին արմատական եւ պահպանողական թունդ քրիստոնէութիւն՝ մոլեռանդ իսլամական երկրին մէջ։ Երկրորդ, ամերիկեան միսիոնարները այդ կրթական հաստատութիւններու միջոցաւ, ու շատ բնականաբար, կը տարածէին ամերիկեան ցամաքամասին վրայ տիրող քաղաքական, կրօնական, մշակութային, ու տնտեսական ազատութեան գաղափարախօսութիւնները որոնք խոտոր կը համեմատէին Օսմանեան կայսրութեան միապետական ու բռնապետական վարչաձեւին հետ։

Հետեւաբար, միսիոնարական գոլենները - Այնթապ, Մարաշ, Խարբերդ, Մարզուան, եւլն. - հայ յեղափոխականներ արտադրող դարբնոցներ կը նկատուէին։ Ու մենք գիտենք թէ ցեղասպանութիւնը սկսաւ հայ մտաւորականներու եւ հոգեւորականներու լուծարքով, որ կը յատկանշուի 1915, Ապրիլ 24-ի Պոլսոյ մտաւորականներուն գիշերով կատարուած ձերբակալութիւնով, աքսորով, ու ապա սպանութիւնով։

Այժմ համառօտ կերպով անդրադառնանք Հայ Աւետարանական հերոսներու։ Հայ ցեղասպանութեան պատմութիւնը լեցուն է հայ հերոսապատումներով, խիզախ ու քաջարի կռիւներով, եւ ինքնապաշտպանութեան հիասքանչ դրուագներով։ Կրկնե՛նք։ Թուրքիոյ 2.5 միլիոն հայութեան մէջ 50-70 հազար հաշուող հայ աւետարանականներ համեմատարար շատ մեծ թիւով հերոսներ եւ նահատակներ տուին։ Հոս կը բաւականանանք ներկայացնելով հայ աւետարանական հերոսներէն միայն երեք հատը որոնք ինքնապաշտպանութեան կռիւներուն մէջ առաջնորդի դեր կատարեցին։ Թէեւ ո՛չ ամրողջական, այս հերոսները ներկայացուած են հայոց ինքնապաշտպանութեան նուիրուած հատորներու մէջ։

ա. Վեր. Համրարձում Աշնեան (1863-1938)։

վեր. Աշնեան օժտուած էր մտաւորական եւ հոգեւոր բացառիկ շնորհքներով։ Ծրջանաւարտ էր Մարաշի Աստուածաբանական Ճեմարանեն։ Ուսումը կատարելագործեց Եէյլի (Մ.Ն.) Աստուածաբանական Ճեմարանի մէջ, ու Թուրքիա վերադարձաւ իր ազգակիցներուն ծառայելու համար։ Ան 1907-1914 տարիներուն իբրեւ Հոգեւոր Հովիւ ծառայեց Ատանայի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին։ Ասոնք մութ ու արիւնալի տարիներ եղան Կիլիկիոյ հայութեան համար։ Ատանայի ջարդը, որ սկսած էր Ապրիլ 11, 1909ին, տեւեց երկու շաբաթ, որու ընթացքին ջարդուեցան 30,000 հայեր։ Հայ ժողովուրդը անակնկալի եկաւ, որով դիմադրական ոչ մէկ փորձ եղաւ։ Ահա այս ահաւոր տագնապի շրջանին էր որ երեւան եկան Վեր. Աշճեանի անվեհեր ու պարկեշտ առաջնորդի յատկանիշները։ Հայ Առաքելական Եկեղեցիին Առաջնորդը քաղաքէն կը բացակայէր։ Տեղւոյն հայ եւ ոչ-հայ քրիստոնեայ առաջնորդները միասնական ժողովներ ունեցան որոնց ատենապետը ընտրուեցաւ Վեր. Աշճեան։ Ան եղաւ նաեւ այս միջ-եկեղեցական մարմինին, ու հայ ժողովուրդին խօսնակը։ Ան մէկ կողմեն իր ազգակիցներուն տառապանքը մեղմելու համար ո՛չ միայն հոգեւոր, հապա տնտեսական օգնութեան միջոցներու կը դիմէ, իսկ միւս կողմէն՝ թուրք կառավարութեան հետ տեսակցութիւններ կ՝ունենայ որոնց ընթացքին քաջաբար, ու իր կեանքը վտանգելով, կ՝ամբաստանէ զանոնք իբրեւ ջարդի հեղինակներ, ու կը պահանջէ ջարդարարներու պատժուիլը։ Վեր: Աշճեան գնահատական եւ շնորհակալական գիրեր ստացաւ Վեհափառ Հայրապետէն, Պատրիարքէն, ու հայ ականաւոր անձերէն՝

իր անձնուէր ծառայութիւններուն համար։ Վեր-Աշնեանի ծառայութեան վերջին եկեղեցին եղաւ Ծիքակոյի Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցին՝ 1929-1934 ուր եւս մեծ գնահատանքի արժանացաւ ամրողջ գաղութին կողմէ։ Ան իր հանգիստր մտաւ 1938-ին։

p. Վեր. Տիգրան Անդրէասեան (1888-1962):

Վեր Տիգրան Անդրէասեանի եկեղեցական-ազգային ծառայութիւնը կր սկսի Զէյթուն քաղաքին մէջ՝ ուր դրկուած էր Մարաշի Աստուածաբանական Ճեմարանեն շրջանաւարտ ըլլալե անմիջապես ետք, 1914-ին։ Զէյթունի հայերուն ու թուրքերուն միջեւ տեղի ունեցող ընդհարումներէն ետք հայերու բռնագաղթը կը սկսի։ Քանի որ Պատուելին բնիկ Մուսա Տարեն էր, միսիոնարներու միջամտութեամբ թուրք իշխանութիւնները կ՝որոշեն հոն՝ իր ծննդավայրր որկել զինք։ Ան նոր ամուսնացած էր։ Կ՝որոշուի որ Պատուելին ճամբու վրայ Մարա, հասցնէ 40 հայ որբուկներ, ու հոնկէ շարունակէ իր ճամբան դեպի Շօդուն-Օլուք, Մուսա Տաղ։ Թուրքեր քանի մը անգամներ կր փորձեն որբերը իր ձեռքէն առնել, սակայն, Պատուելին իր կեանքը վտանգելով կր պաշտպանէ որբերը ու ապահով Մարաշ կր հասցնէ։ Երբ Եօղուն-Օլուք կը հասնի, կ՝իմանայ որ կառավարութիւնը արդէն հրահանգած էր հինգ հայկական գիւղերուն՝ որ պատրաստ ըլլան տեղահանութեան։ Գիւղի մեծամեծներուն մէկ ժողովին ան կր յանձնարարէ որ ինքնապաշտպանութիւնը նախընտրելի էր քան րոնագաղթը։ Պատուելին կր թելադրէ որ Մուսա Տաղ բարձրանայ ժողովուրդը, քանի որ ատկէ անդին ծով կար, որ կրնար փախուստի միջոց ընծայել։ Լերան վրայ գումարուած առաջին ժողովին ներկաները միաձայնութեամբ զինք կ՝ընտրեն իբրեւ Ինքնապաշտպանութեան Կոմիտէի Ատենապետ։ Վտանգաւոր պարտականութիւն մրն էր սա տակաւին 27 տարեկան երիտասարդ հոգեւորականի մր համար։ Կերպով մր ան ինզինք կը գտնէ Հին Կտակարանի Մովսէսին վիճակուած դերին մէջ։ Իր բարձր ուսումը, Զէյթունի մէջ ունեցած փորձառութիւնը, եւ Աստուծոյ իրեն շնորհած իմաստութիւնը եւ քաջութիւնը լաւագոյն տուեալներն էին իրեն՝ այս պաշտօնը ստանձնելու։ Ան շուտով կր կազմակերպէ ժողովուրդը ու յանձնախումբեր նշանակուին պաշտպանութեան, պարենաւորումի, հաղորդակցութեան, ու կարգապահութեան։ Անոնք իրենց ունեցած նախնական զէնքերով կր յաջողին ետ մղել թրքական ոյժերը։ Հետաքրքրական է նշել պարագայ մր։ Տեղացիները նախ կր վախնան իրենց զենքերը գործածել մօտեցող բշնամիին դեմ։ «Զարնե՞նք, զարնե՞նք» կը հարցնեն Պատուելիին՝ քանի մր երիտասարդներ։ - «Այնպե՛ս զարկեք, որ փամփուշտր չվատնուի» - կր պատասխանէ Պատուելին։ Ամէն հաւանականութեան առաջքը առնելու համար, Պատուելին մեծ ու սպիտակ սաւան մր ձեռք կր ձգէ որուն վրայ գծել կուտայ խոշոր կարմիր խաչ մը, եւ Անգլերէն ու Ֆրանսերէն լեզուներով, ու խոշոր տառերով գրել կուտայ - «Դաշնակից բոլոր նաւերուն ուշադրութեան - Քրիստոնեաները վտանգի տակ -Օգնութեան հասէք» կոչը։ Ու շնորհիւ այս դրօշակին է, որ քառասուն օր կռուելէ ետք, Ֆրանսական մարտանաւ մը տեսնելով զայն, կը մօտենայ ծովեզերքը։ Այսպէս, ուրիշ նաւակներու օգնութեամբ, աւելի քան չորս հազար ժողովուրդ կր լքեն լեռը ու կր փոխադրուին Եգիպտոսի Փօրթ-Սաիտ քաղաքը։ Այս դէպքը միջազգային մամուլին մէջ եւս նիւթ կր դառնայ, ու Պատուելիին գրած մէկ երկար տեղեկագիրը կացութեան շուրջ, տեղ կր գտնէ Պրայսի հրատարակած հսկայածաւալ ու հեղինակաւոր վաւերագրական Կապոյտ Գիրքին մէջ որ կր կոչուի - The Treatment of the Armenians in the Ottoman Empire: Նաեւ այս ինքնապաշտպանութեան պատմութիւնն է որ կը ներշնչէ Աւստրիացի - Հրեայ - Ֆրանց Վերֆէլը՝ գրելու իր գլուխ-գործոց *Մուսա* Տարի Քառասուն Օրերը - The Forty Days of Mussa Dagh վէպը։ Այս վէպին մէջ Վերֆէլ կր փոխէ Անդրէասեանի անունը՝ ապահովութեան համար, ու կր գործածէ Արամ Թովմասեան վիպական անունը։ Ցետագային Պատուելին գրեց իրական պատմութիւնը այս հայ ինքնապաշտպանութեան սխրալի ու պատուաբեր դէպքին՝ Ջէյթունի Տարագրութիւնը եւ Սուէտիոյ Ապստամբութիւնը՝ խորագրով։ 1993-ին այս գիրքը Անգլերէնի թարգմանուեցաւ Ծիքակոյէն Տիկին Քնարիկ Մենեշեանի կողմե, ու հրատարակուեցաւ Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան նախաձեռնութեամբ։ Այս գիրքէն կրնաք օրինակներ ունենալ դիմելով Աւետարանչականի Գրասենեակը։

Վեր. Անդրէասեան յարգանք կամ պատիւ չվայելեց իր ողջութեան շրջանին ազգին, եւ նոյնիսկ մեր համայնքին կողմէ իբրեւ իրական հերոս մը, սակայն, իր մահէն ետք Երեւանի Թանգարանին մէջ իր նկարը եւս դրուեցաւ ազգային հերոսներու նկարներուն շարքին։ Իսկ թուականէս աւելի քան տասնեակ տարիներ առաջ, Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան Գործադիր Տնօրէն վաղամեռիկ Վեր. Մովսէս Ճանպազեանի նախաձեռնութեամբ Վեր. Անդրէասեանի աճիւնները Պէյրութէն փոխադրուեցան Լիբանանի Այնճար գիւղաքաղաքը ուր իր ժողովուրդը՝ Մուսա Տաղցիներու մնացորդացը հաստատուած էր։ Դարձեալ՝ Վեր. Ճանպազեանի ջանքերով՝ Վեր. Անդրէասեանի կիսանդրին զետեղուեցաւ Այնճարի կեդրոնական մայր փողոցին վրայ՝ համազգա-յին մեծ հանդիսութեամբ եւ շուքով, հայ երեք համայնքներու պետերուն մասնակցութեամբ, ու կազմակերպութեամբ Մերձ. Արեւելքի Հայ Աւետ․ Եկեղեցիներու Միութեան։ Բաց աստի, Վեր․ Ճանպազեանի հետապնդումով՝ Հայաստանի մէջ երկու դպրոցներ՝ Մանկապարտեզ մր Երեւանի մեջ, ու Երկրորդական Վարժարան մր Կիւմրիի մէջ կոչունցան վեր Տիգրան Անդրէասեանի անունով։ Պատի՛ւ հայ ժողովուրդին, ու յատկապէս պատի՛ւ հայ աւետարանական համայնքին՝ որոնք գիտցան գնահատել այս մեծ հերոսը՝ հոգ չէ թէ յետ-մահու։

գ. Տիար Ատուր Լեւոնեան (1894-1963)։

Եթէ մեր նախորդ երկու հերոսները հոգեւոր հովիւ ըլլալով հանդերձ պատահականօրեն ստանձնած էին ազգային ղեկավարի դեր, Ատուր Լեւոնեան աշխարհականը՝ իր կանուխ տարիքին, եւ գիտակցօրէն պատրաստուեցաւ ազգային ինքնապաշտպանութեան ու ղեկավարի պաշտօնին։ Ան մեծցաւ հաւատացեալ ու բարեպաշտ ընտանիքի մէջ ուր կային ընտանեկան աղօթք, նրգեցողութիւն, նկեղեցասիրութիւն, եւ բարոյական դաստիարակութիւն։ Համաշխարհային Ա Պատերազմի նախօրեակին, Թուրք կառավարութիւնը արդէն սկսած էր բռնագաղթի ենթարկել իր հայազգի քաղաքացիները։ Ատուր ուսեալ րլլալուն՝ իբրեւ սպայ թրքական բանակին կ՝արձանագրուի խորհելով որ այդ կերպով տարագրութենէ պիտի ազատէր իր ծնողքը, ինչ որ չյաջողեցաւ։ Պատերազմի ընթացքին ան գերի բոնուեցաւ անգլիական զօրքերուն կողմէ, ու շատ չանցած, սկսաւ ծառայել անգլիական բանակին գաղտնի գործակալութեան (Intelligence Service) մէջ։ Թրքերէն լեզուի իր ծանօթութիւնը, եւ իմացական ու գործնական ուշիմութիւնը մեծապէս գնահատուեցան

բանակին մէջ, ուր շատ չանցած աստիճանի բարձ-

րացում ունեցաւ։

Պատերազմի աւարտին, Դաշնակից պետութիւններու միջեւ աղտոտ մրցակցութիւն մր սկսած էր Օսմանեան հողամասին շուրջ, յատկապես Ֆրանսայի եւ Անգլիոյ միջեւ։ Ատուր հրաժարեցաւ իր պաշտօնեն, եւ սկսաւ Այնթապի հայ ժողովուրդը՝ որ գաղթականութենէ վերադարձած էր՝ պատրաստել ին քնապաշտպանութեան՝ թրքական հաւանական յարձակումի ու ջարդի դէմ։ Անգլիական բանակին գաղտնի սպասարկութեան մէջ իր ունեցած դիւանագիտական ու ռազմական փորձառութիւնները մեծապէս օգտակար եղան իրեն, նաեւ հեղինակութիւն տուին իբրեւ զինուորական պետ՝ գաղտնօրէն կազմակերպելու ամրողջ հայ ժողովուրդը։ Ծնորհիւ իր ճարտար ռազմավարութեան, իր հաւատարիմ գործակիցներուն, եւ ժողովուրդին միասնակամ կեցուածքին, եւ րրած զոհողութիւններուն, Այնթապի 11 երկար ամիսներ տեւող պատերազմը ի նպաստ հայերուն վերջացաւ։ Եթէ Վեր. Անդրէասեան միջոց եղաւ Մուսա Տաղի չորս հազար հայերու փրկութեան, պր. Ատուր Լեւոնեան դարձաւ ազատարարը Այնթապի քսան հազար հայերուն։ Ան յաջողեցաւ գործակցութիւն հաստատել Այնթապի երեք քոյր յարանուանութիւններուն, ինչպէս նաեւ կուսակցութիւններուն միջեւ։ Արդարեւ ան արժանացաւ համազգային պատիւի ու գնահատանքի։ Ան իր վերջին տարիները անցուց Միացեալ Նահանգներու մէջ, երբ անակնկալ հիւանդութիւն եւ սրտի կաթուած մը վերջ տուին իր կեանքին 25 Մայիս, 1963-ին, Ֆիլատելֆիայի մէջ։ Թաղման պաշտամունքն ու արարողութիւնները կատարուեցան Աւետարանական ու Առաքելական եկեղեցիներու հոգեւորականներով, ու մասնակցութեամբ բոլոր հայ կուսակցութիւններու եւ կազմակերպութիւններու։

Մեզի յատկացուած էջերը չեն ներեր որ յիշենք մեր բոլոր հերոսները, ինչպէս՝ Զէյթունի Արամ Պէկ Չոլագեանը, խարբերդի Պատուելի Գարեգին Չիթնեանը, Ամասիայի Պատուելի Ցարութիւն Թումաեանը եւ Միհրան Մանիսանեանը, Սողոմոն Թէհլիրեանը եւ ուրիշներ։ Ինչպէս ծանօք է ձեզմէ ոմանց՝ Թէհլիրեան Պերլինի մէջ սպաննեց Թալէաթ Փաշան՝ որ հայ ցեղասպանութիւնը յղացող եւ գործադրող հրեշներեն մեկը եղած եր։ Այս կերպով ան կր խորհէր լուծած րլլալ իր ծնողաց եւ նահատակ հայ ազգին վրէժը։

Եզրակացութիւն.- Հայ Աւետարանական համայնքը անբաժան մէկ մասն է հայ ժողովուրդին եւ ազգին։ Ան իր ազգասիրութեան մասին պէտք չ՝զգար ո՛չ մէկուն հաշիւ տալու։ Մենք ո՛չ մէկ վնաս հասցուցած ենք հայ ժողովուրդին, ո՛չ մէկ ազգակից հայու արիւնը թափած ենք գաղափարական տարբերութեան պատճառով։ Մենք միշտ մեր ժողովուրդին հետ եղած ենք անոր ուրախ, բայց յատկապէս տխուր օրերուն։ Սակայն, եթէ կր հաւատանք մեր հայ աւետարանականութեան հոգեւոր եւ ազգային կոչումին, ու մտահոգութիւններուն,

մենք շարունակելու ենք յարգել ու սիրել մեր ժառանգութիւնը, ու տէր կանգնիլ անոնց։ Աստուածային նախախնամութիւնով է որ մենք հայ ծնած ենք, եւ աւետարանական շունչով սնած՝ որպէսզի ծառայենք մեր ազգին ու եկեղեցիին՝ Աստուծոյ փառքին, ու մեր

ժողովուրդին հոգևւոր եւ ֆիզիքական բարօրութեան համար։ 🔲

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff also wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA NEWS.

Phyllis Altoonian

Watertown, MA

* Maral Boyajian

Fresno, CA

Garabed Chopourian

Larnaca, Cyprus

* Ghazar Darakyan

Barrington, RI

* Virginia Kerbeykian

Teaneck, NJ

Helen Kerkezian

Fresno, CA

* Serge Krikorian

Waxhaw, NC

Katherine A. Karabian

Fresno, CA

* Antranik Mazloumian

Glendale, CA

* Norman Minassian

Encino, CA

* Ann Ohanesian

Cranston, RI

* Gary Ohanesian

Northridge, CA

Mary Elaine Paloutzian

Fresno, CA

Vergine Sahagian Saliba

Fresno, CA

* Lillian Sharian

Decatur, GA

Ara Puzant Sulahian

Palo Alto, CA

Rev. Leon Tavitian

Scotland, CT

Save The Date

Celebrate

the 91st Annual Banquet of the Armenian Missionary Association of America

Honoring the Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau, Esq.

(Former District Attorney for NY County and Grandson of Henry Morgenthau, Sr., **US Ambassador to Ottoman Empire during WWI)**

Sunday, October 17, 2010, 4 pm at Hackensack Golf Club Oradell, NJ

- Come to honor a great man.
- Come to hear a great message.
- Come to enjoy a magnificent fellowship.
- Come to praise God for all His blessings.
- Come and bring a friend!

Memorials designated for AMAA

John M. Bogdasarian

John M. Bogdasarian of Binghamton, NY and Boca Raton, FL passed away peacefully on January 15, 2010 in Boca Raton, with his family by his side. He was born April 18, 1919 in Binghamton, NY, the



son of the late Agnes (Azniv) and Michael (Manoog) Bogdasarian and sister, Mrs. Lillian Mahakian.

Mr. Bogdasarian was a lifelong member of Saint Gregory Armenian Church in Binghamton. He served on the Parish Council and was Treasurer for many years.

A mechanical engineer, Mr. Bogdasarian was employed by the Bendix Corporation in Sidney, NY in the Engine Products Magneto Division. In 1980, he retired from his business, Tri City Ideal Laundry and Cleaners in Edicott, NY, which he founded in 1961 with his business partner, Milton Goldstein. He is survived by his wife, Alice (Taneian) Bogdasarian and three daughters, Rosemarie Peelle of North Andover, MA, Suzanne Schoettinger of Midland, MI and Valerie Bogdasarian Stachnik of New York City. He also leaves behind five granddaughters and three great-granddaughters, three nephews and a niece.

A memorial service was held on May 29, at Saint Gregory Church in Binghamton, NY. In lieu of flowers, a Memorial Fund has been established in his name at the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

Florence Gertmenian

Florence Mardian Mehagian Gertmenian died peacefully at the age of 95 on April 21, 2010 in Mission Hills, CA.

Born in Syracuse, NY on January 10, 1915, she was the daughter of Samuel and Akabe Mardian. The family moved to Pasadena, CA in 1916. She attended Pasadena Junior College but left to care for her ailing mother. In 1933, she married Leon Mehagian and together they operated Mehagian's Rugs and Carpets, first in Albuquerque, NM and later in Phoenix, AZ.

Florence was widely known for her cooking and entertaining skills and her compassion for others. She was active in many civic activities in Phoenix including the First Methodist Church where she served as a member of the Board of Trustees, the St. Joseph Hospital Auxiliary, as President of Phi Beta Psi Sorority, Vice President of the Madison #1 School PTA, and an honorary member of the North Phoenix Lion's Club. She was

also an Advisor to the Phoenix Chapter of the Armenia General Benevolent Union, a member of the Phoenix Civic Light Opera and one of the founders of Haigazian College in Beirut, Lebanon.

At the age of 40, she became a realtor, and within a year, was the top seller at Ed Post Realty in Phoenix. After Leon, her husband of forty-one years, died in 1975, she married her childhood sweetheart, Roy Gertmenian, and later moved to San Clemente, CA where she became an avid fisherwoman and belonged to the Lady Anglers of Dana Point, CA.

Florence moved to Studio City, CA in 2005 to be close to her daughter and grand-daughter. At the age of 90, she volunteered at the Discovery Shop in Sherman Oaks, CA. When asked the secret of her long and healthy life, her answer was "Hard work won't kill you!"

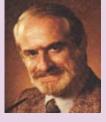
Florence was proud of the many accomplishments of her four brothers Aram, Dan, Sam and Robert Mardian. She is survived by two of her brothers, Dan and Sam, and by her son, Richard and his wife Margo, and her daughter Nancy and granddaughter Vedra as well as by countless nieces and nephews who all adored Auntie Florence.

The family requested that donations be made to the Ararat Home of Los Angeles, 15105 Mission Hills Road, Mission Hills, CA where Florence was lovingly cared for the past two years. □

Bernard Hadidian

Bernard Hadidian, architect and teacher, died on December 19, 2009 at the age of 83.

Born on October 31, 1926, Bernard lived in Aleppo, Syria and Beirut, Lebanon and graduated from



the American University of Beirut Lebanon with a degree in architecture. He worked in Lebanon and Kuwait as an architect.

He immigrated to Canada in the early 1960's where he worked as a teacher for over 30 years and retired in 1991. He was also a musician, playing the violin and other instruments.

Bernard was predeceased by his brothers and most recently his mother. Although he was raised in a Christian family, Bernard was not a practicing Christian until a few years ago when he came to know Christ as his personal savior and had an intimate relationship with Him in prayer and Bible study.

Henri Salibian

Henri Salibian passed away at age 77 on June 2, 2010 in Park Ridge, IL following a short illness.

Born December 22, 1932 in Beirut, Lebanon, he was the son of Victoria (Shira-



jian) and Luther Salibian and the grandson of Rev. Aharon Shirajian. He was the youngest of four children – brother Hagop and sisters Lucie and Nevart – and was raised in a loving Christian family where he learned ethical and Christian values.

Henri was educated in the French Mariste School, College De Salle where he excelled in school and the sports of swimming and soccer. After college, he worked at Le Soir French daily newspaper in Beirut as a sports reporter. He was captain of the national Water Polo Team earning many medals and accolades and proudly representing his country.

In 1963 he moved to New York to be near his mother and sister, Nevart, and her family. He worked for Trans Mediterranean Airways in Houston, Los Angeles and later in Chicago.

Henri and Angel married in 1971 and lived in Des Plaines, IL. Henri was proud of his Armenian heritage and was a good ambassador. He loved history, geography, sports and reading. He enjoyed his family and friends and spending time with his two granddaughters. He was a simple and kind man and left us with many fond memories.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 39 years, Angel "Alice", his son Jacques, daughter Lucie (Dr. Vicken) Ishkhanian, grandchildren Nora and Silva, and sister Nevart Darmanian.

Aetna Tashjian

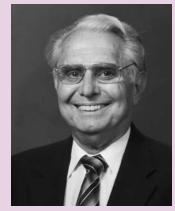
Aetna Tashjian, a retired Raytheon executive, passed away on May 8, 2010 in Weston, MA at the age of 77 after a courageous 10 month battle with lung and bone cancer. Born in Watertown, MA, he attended Northeastern University and served in the United States Air Force.

Aetna began his business career with RCA and worked in the communications division for the Lunar Expedition module (LEM) program. While at Raytheon, he was responsible for the flight testing of the AN/TPN-19 tactical air craft landing radar system still used by the United States Air Force. He also managed a fixed base version AN/GPN-22 air craft landing radar system used in many

Rev. Karl Vartan Avakian

Rev. Karl Vartan Avakian passed away on May 30 in Fresno, CA. His strong framework of faith was built from his youth in Alexandria, Egypt where he was born on January 23, 1936. He moved to Fresno, CA to study Christian theology at Pacific Bible Institute (now Fresno Pacific University) and later graduated from Tabor College. He received his Masters of Divinity Degree from the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary in 1965. Rev. Avakian's education continued at California State University, Fresno where he completed the requirements for a life secondary teaching credential in addition to graduate studies at the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary, Fresno Pacific University and Princeton Theological Seminary with a focus on Mediation Counseling and Peacemaking.

Rev. Avakian's early ministry was shaped during his years as Director of Christian Education and Youth at Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church in Fresno. The strong relationships formed during these years lasted a lifetime and



continue to impact the world for Christ. Upon his ordination in 1979, he was called to serve as pastor of the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ and in 1988, as Moderator of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA). He later became Minister to the Armenian Evangelical Union and travelled throughout the world serving as a spiritual leader. Rev. Avakian loved to tell stories and had committed to memory details of his rich experiences throughout his life and ministry. He was more than just a friend, brother in Christ or pastor, he was family.

Rev. Avakian was an active member and a close friend of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). He served on the AMAA Board as well as on various AMAA Committees. Rev. Avakian was also an active member of the Fresno Pacific University Board of Trustees from 1990 until his death. Moreover, Rev. Avakian served as a board member for the California Armenian Home, the Armenian Theological Student Aid and the Armenian Evangelical World Council. He was a member of the Central California Armenian Community Committee. In 1990, Rev. Avakian received the Fresno Pacific University Distinguished Alumnus Award and was honored with a "Knahadakir" from his Eminence Archbishop Mesrob Ashjian of New York for "outstanding service rendered to the Armenian Nation." Over the years, he has been described as a gracious individual and an easy person to embrace. He was a wonderful, loving and caring Christian man. Rev. Avakian is survived by Nancy, his wife of 46 years, his two children, Laura and David; his sister, Veronica Keoshkerian and her husband Daniel of Toronto, Canada; and his brother, Arthur Avakian of Vancouver, Canada. A Memorial Service and celebration of Rev. Avakian's life was held at Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church on June 12, 2010. \square

countries. Aetna was also instrumental with Operation Desert Storm.

He was a founding member of the Armenian Children's Milk Fund and both he and his wife served ACMF for many years.

He was the beloved husband of 55 years to Araksie Kalajian Tashjian and the devoted father of Stephen Paul Tashjian and his wife Melvina M. Tashjian, Gary Tashjian and his wife Lisa M. Tashjian, and his daughter Roxanne Marie Tashjian. He was also the brother of Jacob Tashjian, John Tashjian and the late Charles Tashjian and Nellie Dorrill.

Funeral services were held on May 12 at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church, Cambridge, MA. Memorial gifts may be made to the Araksie and Aetna Tashjian Trust Fund at Holy Trinity Armenian Church, 145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 or to the Massachusetts General Lung Cancer Center.

Nune Yepremyan

Nune Yepremyan passed away on March 24, 2010 at the age of 41.

Born on November 17, 1968 in Artashat, Armenia to Pavel and Hasmik Yepremyan, she was the third of six sisters. She loved to learn and graduated from Yerevan State University in Armenia where she graduated at the top of her class with a bachelor's degree in chemistry.

Nune married Minas Kiledjian in the Holy Echmiakin Church on June 19, 1992. She moved to Glendale, CA where she had two children. She pursued a career as a realtor and as an insurance agent.

A successful businesswoman and lover of animals, Nune owned 4 parrots, 3 dogs and 1 cat. She also enjoyed the outdoors and her favorite places were Khosrovi Andar in Armenia, Mammoth Lakes and Hawaii. Through her love of God, Nune brought four couples together in

marriage: Viken and Ana Kiledjian, Jerayr and Marine Haleblian, Heghine and Johnny Guldalian and Avo and Nune Davidian.

According to her brother-in-law, Dr. Jerayr Haleblian, Nune was always there to help her family and friends. She assisted them with their citizenship paperwork and visited them in the hospital. She was a very positive, confident person with a bubbly personality and a big heart. She loved to smile and laugh.

Diagnosed with cancer over 5 years ago, she underwent many chemo and radiation therapies and never complained. She was a fighter. Her family and friends were there for her during her treatments, encouraging her with words and sharing Bible verses with her.

In the short time she was with us, Nune was a faithful wife to Minas, a loving mother to her children Haig and Nareh, a good daughter and sister to Hripsime, Rusan, Armine, Heghine and Marine.



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OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 91st ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Ninety-First Annual Meeting of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) will be held on Saturday, October 16, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. at the AMAA Headquarters, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ. All members of the AMAA are invited to attend the meeting to:

- I. Consider and approve the reports of the Officers, Committees, Chapters, and Affiliated boards of the Association for fiscal year 2009-2010;
- II. Review the financial reports for fiscal year 2009-2010;
- III. Announce the names of the newly elected Board members;
- IV. Elect members to the Nominating Committee;
- V. Elect an Auditor;
- VI. Consider and act upon any other business that may legitimately come before the membership.

PROGRAM OF THE 91st ANNUAL MEETING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Friday, October 15 at the AMAA Headquarters

9:30 am Armenian Evangelical World Council Meeting

2:00 pm Seminar/Workshop

7:00 pm AMAA Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, October 16 at the AMAA Headquarters

9:30 am 91st Annual Meeting

2:00 pm AMAA Board of Directors Meeting (Short Session)

Sunday, October 17 at the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ

11:00 am 91st Annual Meeting Worship Service and Installation of AMAA Officers

Sunday, October 17 at Hackensack Golf Club, Oradell, NJ

4:00 pm 91st Annual Meeting Banquet, Honoring the Hon. Robert M. Morgenthau, Esq.,
Former District Attorney for NY County and
Grandson of Henry Morgenthau, Sr.,
US Ambassador to Ottoman Empire during WWI